

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information:

Von Gilbreath or Mike Yaskowsky

Hampton Department of Economic Development

(757) 728-5171 or e-mail: vgilbreath@hampton.gov

Mar. 12, 2004

Release No. 001-04

Shannon Verstynen

National Institute of Aerospace

(757) 766-1612 or e-mail: Shannon@nianet.org

Kathy Barnstorff

NASA Langley Research Center

(757) 864-9886

Steve Mallon

Craig Davis Properties

(757) 865-8990

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AEROSPACE'S MOVE TO NEW FACILITY WILL SPUR DEVELOPMENT OF HAMPTON'S 250-ACRE BUSINESS CAMPUS

-- City's last major greenfield for commercial and industrial development commences --

(Hampton, Virginia) – Today, the City of Hampton, Craig Davis Properties and the National Institute of Aerospace (NIA)'s groundbreaking ceremony officially moves forward the construction of a new 60,000 square-foot high-tech facility and begins development of the Hampton Roads Center North Campus in Hampton. On property acquired from the Hampton Industrial Development Authority, the building will be developed and owned by Craig Davis Properties, Inc. The three-story building, Class A office space, will offer the latest state-of-the-art technology and design. The NIA will initially lease approximately 30,000 square feet scheduled for completion in early 2005. The City's long-range plans will allow the Institute to grow and expand in the campus setting.

The NIA's new location – 1.52 miles from NASA Langley Research Center – will establish a permanent presence for first-class research and graduate education capability in Hampton. Keeping the Institute near Langley helps facilitate the Institute's involvement in agency-sponsored research programs and foster collaboration with NASA, including access to its world-class research facilities. Funded by NASA Langley at an estimated \$118 million, over the first five years, the NIA is designed to grow into an operation that will sustain itself by securing grants and industry contracts.

"The new facility will offer great advantages to our research and education programs. Technology additions including wide-band communication equipment will enhance our distance-learning capabilities. It will offer a research-intensive environment for our faculty and staff scientists to collaborate with NASA Langley

- more -

researchers and our other partners,” said Robert Lindberg, President, National Institute of Aerospace.

"Today's ground-breaking is an important milestone in our partnership with the foundation, universities, researchers, students and faculty that make up the NIA. This state-of-the-art facility will help the Institute contribute to the President's exploration vision as well as NASA's mission to understand and protect our home planet, explore the universe and search for life, and inspire the next generation of explorers through aerospace and atmospheric sciences research,” said Roy D. Bridges, Jr., Director, NASA’s Langley Research Center.

“As the region’s newest technology asset, there is much to be gained on an international and national scale with the presence of the NIA in the Hampton Roads Center North Campus,” said Hampton Mayor Charlie Wornom. “The NIA gives further credibility to Hampton and the surrounding area as a growing high-tech corridor with unlimited possibilities.”

Projected Economic Impact

As a catalyst for economic development, the NIA is the city’s latest high-wage job creation initiative projected to employ scientists and engineers earning salaries of \$80,000 a year and above in the coming years. "The National Institute of Aerospace will have a measurable impact on the Hampton Roads economy. It will contribute \$7.8 million in new regional economic activity to the region and lead to the creation of over 150 new, high paying jobs to the area in 2004. These impacts will grow with the passage of time as activity at the Institute increases over the years. In addition, it along with other quality research institutions already in the region can help to provide a nucleus around which other new high quality economic activities can grow." comments John Whaley, Deputy Executive Director, Hampton Roads Planning District Commission.

Leading the charge to promote aerospace and engineering development, the NIA will team with NASA, industry and academia to foster new aeronautic technologies; incubate and commercialize new intellectual property; and work with local universities to share information through distance learning technology. Existing and new businesses will also reap the benefits with enhanced technology resources and a highly skilled workforce prepared for the future.

NIA Facility and Hampton Roads Center North Master Plan

Craig Davis Properties will design and develop the first quadrant of the Hampton Roads Center North Campus. “Our company sees this as building an environment, not just a building. The NIA will be the anchor tenant of the first 60,000 square foot building of a proposed six building 360,000 square foot Class A research campus designed to meet the existing and future needs of the NIA and the emerging technology development community,” said Steve Mallon, a partner with Craig Davis Properties.

- more -

Hampton Roads Center North, a 250-acre campus, represents the city's last major greenfield opportunity for industrial and commercial development. To date, the city has invested over \$4 million in infrastructure for phases one and two. Next year, an additional \$3 million is planned for phase three. Infrastructure improvements such as roadways, utilities and manmade lakes are underway. HRC North Campus will be designed as one of the premier office parks offering the region's latest amenities and "park within in a park" settings. One focus of the HRC North Campus will be to establish a niche as an international transportation park. Recruitment will concentrate on the aerospace industry as well as the broader transportation industry.

In close proximity to the new business park, HRC Central and South Campuses are home to such companies as Computer Science Corporation, Measurement Specialties, Inc., Nextel, NCO Financial, Science Applications International Corporation. The Peninsula Workforce Development Center is also located within the existing Central Campus. Nearby amenities include a health club, 27-hole championship golf course and jogging trail.

#